



St. Edmund's Catholic Primary School

'Together we learn and grow through worship and celebration'

History & Geography Policy

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| Committee responsible for policy | Curriculum and Achievement |
| Coordinators | Catherine Grace Tatiana Purton |
| Statutory/Non-statutory | Non STATUTORY |
| Frequency of Review | Free to determine – every 3 years or earlier if required |
| Date of last review | September 2019 |
| Approved by Staff/ SLT/Committee/FGB | |
| Date of next review | September 2022 |
| Purpose of policy | To outline the requirements of the curriculum subject |
| Consultation | Staff |
| Links to other policies | All other subject policies Curriculum, Marking, Planning |

This policy reflects the school's values and philosophy in relation to the teaching and learning of History and Geography. It sets out a framework within which staff can operate and gives guidance on planning, teaching and assessment.

History and Geography are foundation subjects within the National Curriculum. Both subjects are used as lead theme subjects in the school's curriculum.

Aims:

History aims to provide pupils with opportunities to investigate the past and make sense of why and when important events happened, as well as introducing them to key historical figures. History also contributes to children's knowledge of other people's countries and cultures.

Geography aims to provide pupils with an opportunity to study the world and the human and physical processes which help to shape it. Pupils have a chance to study their local area and contrast it with other places around the world. Geography enables children to gain a greater understanding of the lives and cultures of people from around the world.

In **History**, it is our aim that all children will:

- Develop an understanding of the present in the context of the past; placing events, people and changes within a chronological framework.
- Increase their knowledge of people in societies by comparing, contrasting and respecting characteristic features of beliefs, attitudes and customs in both our own and other countries.
- Stimulate their enquiring minds to undertake investigation, problem solving and decision making.
- Develop and use historical methodology, expanding their skills of research and provide them with the knowledge and techniques to use and interpret evidence.
- Recall and communicate historical information in a variety of ways.

In **Geography**, it is our aim that all children will:

- Develop an interest in, and curiosity about, their surroundings.
- Increase their knowledge and understanding of place in a local, regional, national, international and global context.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the physical and human elements of geography.
- Be given a sense of responsibility for the environment and the people of the world we live in.
- Expand their competence in geographical skills.
- Stimulate their enquiring minds to undertake investigation, problem solving and decision making.

Equal Opportunities

All children at St Edmund's are entitled to access the History and Geography programmes of study at a level appropriate to their special educational needs, regardless of race, sex, religion, ethnic group, culture or ability. Full integration and participation is achieved for those children with specific physical needs by appropriate planning and differentiation by the class teacher.

Through the study of localities, cultures and countries, Geography takes an active role in promoting equal opportunities.

Resources

Resources are stored in year group classrooms with the exception of Atlases which are stored centrally in Geography resource boxes. In addition, there are historical artefacts, globes and maps available in the resources room. There are also many websites available to support each theme. All resources are regularly updated.

Planning

Planning is the responsibility of teachers and the subject leader. In the Foundation Stage, topics are arranged to ensure coverage within the EYFS statutory framework, whilst KS1 and KS2 follow the national curriculum objectives for each subject. Organising the teaching of History and Geography themes in this way ensures continuity & progression throughout the school and enables children to build upon existing knowledge.

All class teachers are responsible for the teaching of History and Geography. Units are taught through the themes in a variety of methods including practical investigative work, exploration, cross-curricular links, demonstration and research. Teachers need to use their flair, enthusiasm, professional knowledge & judgment to identify the most suitable, enjoyable & safest methods appropriate for the work being conducted.

Planning is arranged into long term and medium term curriculum theme plans.

Planning is used to:

- Set clear, learning objectives and achievable goals

- Ensure work is matched to pupils' abilities, experience and interests.
- Ensure continuity, progression and subject coverage throughout the school.
- Evaluate & assess pupil progress.
- Inform future planning & provide criteria for the evaluation of teaching and learning
- Make cross curricular links.

Plans are available to the head teacher, curriculum subject leaders and other teachers on the staff area of the server.

Assessment

At St Edmund's assessment & record keeping is an integral part of our teaching & learning policy. Books and written work provide records of pupils' achievements which help to inform planning for future learning, and reports of progress to parents. Subject leaders carry out a work scrutiny in the Autumn and Spring terms. Every two years a learning walk will be carried out by the subject leader and the Head teacher.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The **History and Geography** subject leaders monitor planning and children's work on a regular basis. The purpose of monitoring and evaluation activities is to raise the overall quality of teaching and levels of pupil attainment. The Senior Leadership Team oversees the work of the History and Geography coordinator and may carry out monitoring activities in line with the school's policy for monitoring.

Cross Curricular Links

History and Geography topics provide many opportunities for cross-curricular links with other areas of the curriculum. Both subjects have strong links with computing and digital literacy. There are various opportunities to use the internet for research and the computers can be used for writing and presentation purposes. There are also many ways to link History and Geography with English, such as writing letters/diary entries/weather reports etc. Links with Numeracy can be achieved through work on timelines/handling data etc. The curriculum themes allow for unlimited opportunities for links between the humanities and other subjects.